

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-06 AID-05 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1040

UNCLAS GENEVA 5407

FROM BINDA TO BELCHER, AID

DEPT ALSO PASS TO EHRLICH, OIH/DHEW

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WHO

SUBJ: MEETING OF WORKING GROUP ON WHO SPECIAL PROGRAM ON TROPICAL  
DISEASES, JULY 718

REF: GENEVA 5355

1. WHO SPECIAL PROGRAM MEETING STILL UNDERWAY. WHO DOCUMENTATION  
GENERALLY CONSIDERED SATISFACTORY BY PARTICIPANTS, ALTHOUGH CANADIAN,  
BELGIAN AND IBRD REPRESENTATIVES DEPLORED LACK OF ANY REAL BUDGET  
PRESENTATION OR EVEN ANY BUDGET FIGURES IN HAND-OUT DOCUMENTS.  
IBRD REPRESENTATIVE (LEE) MILDLY COMPLAINED THAT AFTER TWO YEARS'  
EXPERIENCE WHO SECRETARIAT SHOULD HAVE HAD FOR THIS MEETING GOOD  
IDEA OF WHAT ARE DESIRABLE AND PRACTICAL BUDGET LEVELS ON YEAR-BY-  
YEAR BASIS. LEE'S CONCERNIS TO SEE WHO BUDGET LEVELS AS SOON AS  
POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO LIMIT EVER-PRESENT POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING  
MAGNITUDE OF SPECIAL PROGRAM BY PLACING BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS AT  
OUTSET. NO DOUBT HE IS ALSO CONCERNED THAT LACK OF PROGRAM BUDGET  
DATA DURING 2-DAY MEETING MAKES HIS OWN TASK OF PRESENTING TO  
IBRD WHETHER BANK SHOULD TRI-SPONSOR SPECIAL PROGRAM MORE  
DIFFICULT. AS REPORTED REFTEL, THER WAS GENERAL  
AGREEMENT IBRD SHOULD BECOME TRI-SPONSOR.

2. UNDP REPRESENTATIVE (MASHLER) ASKED SEVERAL QUESTIONS OF  
WHO SPECIAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR, DR LUCAS, SUCH AS: 1) IS PROGRAM  
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TO BE RUN OUTSIDE OF REGULAR WHO CHANNELS AND REGULATIONS;

2) IS REGULAR WHO FIXED 14 PCT OVERHEAD FIGURE TO BE APPLIED TO PROGRAM; 3) DOES WHO HAVE WAYS OF EXPEDITING CONTRACTS, SINCE GOOD PART OF SPECIAL PROGRAM WILL BE HANDLED DIRECTLY BY CONTRACTS; 4) TO WHAT EXTENT WILL SPECIAL PROGRAM BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, IN PARTICULAR IN REGARD TO BUILDINGS, FOR EXAMPLE, LOW-COST HOUSING FOR AFRICAN TRAINEES, ETC.

3. DR LUCAS REPLIED THAT, AFTER CONDUCTING SHORT SURVEY OF SOME 250 AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS, HE IS SATISFIED EXISTING RESOURCES ARE SATISFACTORY AND NO MONEY WILL BE NEEDED FOR NEW BUILDINGS OR EQUIPMENT. IN FACT, HE BELIEVES ANY EXPENDITURES ON NEW BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT BY AND FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM WOULD HAVE NOTICEABLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS AND MAKE ACCEPTANCE OF SPECIAL PROGRAM BY AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS DIFFICULT.

4. DR LUCAS ALSO OPPOSED APPLYING 14 PCT OVERHEAD TO SPECIAL PROGRAM BUDGET AND URGED THAT ADMINISTRATIVE OR NON-TECHNICAL COSTS BE PUT INTO REGULAR BUDGET, AS IN CASE OF ONCHOCERCIASIS PROGRAM. HE SAW NO NEED FOR SPECIAL PROGRAM OPERATING OUTSIDE NORMAL WHO CHANNELS OR NEEDING EXTRAORDINARY POWERS FOR CONTRACT PURPOSES. HE ALSO SAW NO NEED FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR MAKING CAPITAL INVESTMENTS.

5. CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE (LADOUCEUR) EXERCISED RESTRAINING INFLUENCE DURING MEETINGS BY REMINDING WHO SECRETARIAT SEVERAL TIMES THAT BUDGET PRESENTATION IN DECEMBER WILL BE SCRUTINIZED BY CANADIAN TREASURY.

6. UNDP REPRESENTATIVE (MASHLER) INQUIRED WHAT ROLE WILL UNDP PLAY, ADDING HE WAS NOT SUGGESTING UNEP AS CO-SPONSOR. DR LUCAS URGED THAT CLOSE RELATIONSHIP MUST EXIST WITH UNEP, IN PARTICULAR, IN THE SCHISTOSOMIASIS PROGRAM. DR FLACHE (WHO) SUGGESTED UNEP FITS INTO EITHER CATEGORY "B" OR "D" IN WORKING PAPER 1 (PAGE 5): "CONTRIBUTING PARTIES" OR "ASSOCIATED PARTIES".

7. MASHLER MENTIONED THAT AT RECENTLY CONCLUDED UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING, TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS DISCUSSED. HE SUGGESTED THE SPECIAL PROGRAM

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COULD BECOME THE FIRST EXAMPLE, IF NOT A MODEL. HE ALSO SUGGESTED UNDP CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BUT GAVE NO FIGURES.

8. UP THROUGH MORNING SESSION OF SECOND DAY (JULY 8), THERE HAS BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF CASH CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE MADE TO SPECIAL PROGRAM. MISSION OFFICER KLEIN WILL ATTEND AFTERNOON CLOSING SESSION AND REPORT BY SEPTTEL.DALE

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